THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Scientists at Central Salt and Marine Chemical Research Institute (CSMCRI), Bhavnagar have not developed any medicine from algae. However, a process for preparing liquid biofertilizer has been developed by CSMCRI using seaweed red algae *Kappaphycus alvarezii*(US Patent 6,893,479; dated May 17,2005). The biofertilizer enhances the growth of various crop plants when used as foliar spray. The process know-how has been transferred for commercial exploitation. Further, the laboratory has also been granted a US patent (US 7067568; June 27, 2006) on a process for preparation of biodegradable film from semi-refined kappa carrageenan, obtained from red algae *Kappaphycus alvarezii* which can be utilized for making capsules.

UNESCO report on status of Indian Science

2212. SHRI MAHMOOD A. MADANI:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government agi je with the findings on the status of Indian Science, as contained in UNESCO Science Report, 2005;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor, whether Government have intimated its disagreement to the UNESCO and if so, the response of the UNESCO thereto;

(c) whether Government do agree that none of the Indian Universities could be ranked in the first 20 universities of Asia; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by Government to improve the performance of universities in scientific disciplines?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. UNESCO Science Report 2005 has made positive comments on the status of Indian Science and lists 7 Indian Institutions of higher education in the top 20 Asian Science and Technology universities. (List given in Statement).

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

The top 20 S&T universities in Asia, 2000

(Table 3, p. 251, UNESCO Science report 2005)

Ranking	Country/territory	University
1.	Republic of Korea	Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology
2.	Republic of Korea	Pohang University of Science and Technology
3.	India	Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay
4.	India	Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi
5.	India	Indian Institute of Technology, Madras
6.	Japan	Tokyo Institute of Technology
7.	India	Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur
8.	India	Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur
9.	Singapore	Nanyang Technological University
10.	Taiwan of China	Taiwan University of Science and Technology
11.	Japan	Science University of Tokyo
12.	Hong Kong	Hong Kong Polytechnic University
13.	Japan	Nagoya Institute of Technology
14.	India	University of Roorkee
15.	China	University of Science and Technology of China
16.	Japan	Muroran Institute of Technology
17.	China	Beijing University of Posts and Communications
18.	China	Hauzhong University of Science and Technology
19.	India	Birla Institute of Technology and Science
20.	Pakistan	National University of Sciences and Technology

NOTE: Universities were assessed by *Asiaweek* magazine according to five criteria, academic reputation, student selectivity, faculty resources, research and financial resources. *Asiaweek* discontinued publication after 2000. SOURCE: *Asiaweek*